

BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS TIRE OPERATIONS, LLC

535 Marriott Drive
Nashville, TN 37214

June 25, 2009

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator of Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
West Building
Washington, DC 20590

Re: 08T-026; Notification of Extended Recall, P235/75R15, Firestone FR380

Dear Mr. Smith:

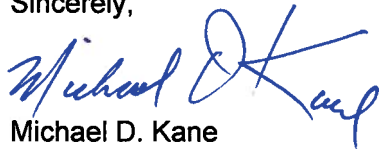
This letter is to advise NHTSA that Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC ("BATO") (formerly Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire, LLC) intends to add additional production weeks to Recall 08T-026 for which a Part 573 letter was supplied on October 22, 2008. Information with respect to the additional production weeks is provided as follows in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Section 573:

1. The importer of the subject motor vehicle equipment is BATO. These tires were produced at the Bridgestone Costa Rica S.A. ("BSCR", formerly known as Bridgestone Firestone Costa Rica, S.A.) plant in San Jose, Costa Rica.
2. The tires included in this recall extension are Firestone-brand P235/75R15 FR380, produced from DOT week 36 in 2007 through DOT week 30 in 2008. The LeMans P235/75R15 Champion SE tires are not affected by this recall extension.
3. BATO estimates that 127,183 Firestone P235/75R15 FR380 tires from the additional production weeks have been sold in the U.S. replacement market (it is possible that a small number of these tires may have been sold in the Canadian replacement market).
4. During 2008, Firestone brand P235/75R15 FR 380 tires from Costa Rica were evaluated. Based on the information available at the time, on October 15, 2008, a decision was made to conduct a recall. BATO continued to monitor adjusted tires and to perform additional engineering determinations and evaluations. Based on the information that became available after October 2008, BATO has decided to expand Recall 08T-026 to include the additional production weeks shown in response number 2 above. There have been no reported incidents, property damage or injury claims involving tires included in the initial recall or this extension.

5. Based on information obtained after October 2008, it has been determined that during the production time period covered by this extension, the BSCR San Jose plant produced Firestone P235/75R15 FR380 tires with insufficient tread base gauge. The condition was corrected in July 2008.
6. Consumers can receive free replacements for the tires included in this Recall extension (i.e. Firestone-brand P235/75R15 FR380 tires produced by BSCR from DOT week 36 in 2007 through DOT week 30 in 2008) at any company-owned store or through any independent authorized Firestone tire dealer through October 31, 2009. In addition, we will continue to offer free replacement tires to consumers who were eligible as part of the initial Recall 08T-026 through October 31, 2009. Company-owned stores include Firestone Complete Auto Care, ExpertTire, TiresPlus, Hibdon TiresPlus, Wheel Works, or Firestone Commercial & Farm.
7. Known purchasers of the affected tires will be sent a letter with instructions regarding inspection and replacement. BATO will send a copy of the draft consumer letter to NHTSA the week of June 29. Mailings will begin as soon as practical after NHTSA's approval of the customer letter.
8. Under our reimbursement plan, BATO will also reimburse purchasers of tires covered by the Recall 08T-026 or this extension for costs incurred for remedies prior to this notification.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Kane
Vice President
Quality Assurance

cc: Mr. George Person
Office of Defects Investigation
Chief, Recall Analysis Division
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
West Building
Washington, DC 20590